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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/703,575 11/01/00 UNGCHUSRI

T 63-11607B

EXAMINER

PM82/0328

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NICHOLSON, E
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3627
DATE MAILED:

03/28/01

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/703,575

Applicant(s)

UNGCHUSRI ET AL.

Examiner

Eric K Nicholson

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page one of the specification the parent application data should be updated. Appropriate correction is required.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by either U.S. patent 1,325,113 to Rohn or German patent 3,503,215. Rohn illustrates stepped bearings 11,12 whereby due to its increased diameter the outer bearing would be capable of accepting more balls. German patent '215 illustrates stepped

bearings 33,34 in figs. 10 and 11 whereby due to its increased diameter the outer bearing would be capable of accepting more balls.

Claims 1,2,7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. patent 990,946 to Badger. Badger illustrates stepped bearings 7 with figure 2 showing more balls in the outer larger diameters. Further, page 1, lines 55-60 discuss sealing sections 9 which prevent lubricant from passing from one raceway to another.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 4,418,947 to Talafuse in view of U.S. patent 990,946

to Badger. Talafuse discloses the claimed device in fig. 4 with stepped bearings 90 whereby due to its increased diameter the outer bearing would be capable of accepting more balls. Further, Talafuse illustrates seals 125,126. Talafuse does not specifically call for more balls in the outer bearings nor as to claims 6,12 and 18 are the balls and raceways of the inner and outer bearings of the same size. Badger discloses in fig. 2 that it is well known in the art to provide stepped bearings with the outer bearings having more balls than the inner smaller diameter bearings. Further, as to claims 6,12 and 18 Badger discloses in figs. 1-2 that it is known in the art to provide the inner and outer stepped bearings with the same size balls and raceways. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide more balls and of the same size to the outer bearings of Talafuse as taught by Badger, in order to properly fill the raceway of the outer bearing for added support of the coupling and to size the bearings of the same size for purposes of supply and ease of manufacture.


The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Nicholson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0829. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesdays thru Fridays from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bethanne Dayoan, can be reached on (703) 308-3865. The fax phone number for Technical Center 3600 is (703) 305-3597.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technical Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

ekn
03/23/01


Eric K. Nicholson
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 3600